3-28-55

SIGNIFICANT DATA
RE POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION PROPOSAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MIDLAND

1. The 1955 directory of the American Association of Junior Colleges indicates:

   a. In 1953-54 there were 338 public junior colleges in the U.S., ten more since World War II, four more in Michigan.

   b. Their enrollment (full and part-time) has increased in U.S. from 378,844 in 1947-48 to 553,008 in 1953-54 (68.5%); in Michigan from 3,168 in 1944-45, to 11,286 in 1949-50 to 17,937 in 1953-54.

   c. In 1953-54 there were 228 of the 338 junior colleges with less than 1000 students, the median of the 338 colleges was between 500-600 students; the median in Michigan was 671. The median freshman full-time day class in Michigan was 247, sophomore class 141. The total enrollment in the freshman (13th) year in Michigan was 4457; in the sophomore (14th) year, 2251.

2. Midland secondary school enrollments:

	9	10	11	12	Est. 13	Est. 14
10-1-1954	634	593	533	418	140	100
Est. 1959	790	700	631	567	225	180

(These data do not include effects of immigration.)

3. Of every three graduates from Midland High School one goes to college, and one of equal college capacity does not go to college.

4. A study of 560 sets of college grades of Midland graduates studying in 25 institutions show that in English, languages, mathematics and science:

   25.0% of the grades are higher than in high school in these same subjects.
   25.0% of the grades are the same as in high school.
   19.8% of the grades are 1/2 point (letter grade) lower than in high school.
   17.5% of the grades are 1 point lower than in high school.
   87.3% of the grades are as good or better than the normal expectancy, or average.
   12.7% of the grades are more than 1 point lower than in high school.

5. Citizens of Midland and community have made 7 school studies since 1947 in all of which provision for post-high school education (community college) was sanctioned or advocated:

   a. "Growing Schools for a Growing Midland," 1947-48.
   b. Midland County area School Study, 1950.
   c. Faculty Study on Program of the Community College, 1949-50.
   d. The Fringe Area Study, 1952.
   e. Citizens Study on Definition of a Community College for Midland, 1951-52.
   f. A re-Appraisal of the Need and Timeliness of the Community College Proposal for Midland, 1953.
   g. The Dawson Report, 1955.

6. The 1947-48 study stated:

"The committee is unanimously agreed on the desirability of extending the local educational offering through the 14th year, available in the same way that education through the 12th grade is now available....."

".....the community college in Midland should serve at least five functions..... First.....this is the opportune age (two years beyond high school graduation at age 17 1/2) for young people, in whose education a large public investment has already been made, to root themselves solidly in community life..... Secondly, ...to provide fully recognized and accredited courses in the 13th and 14th years which can be transferred to any college or university without loss of credit..... Thirdly,.....to offer terminal (semi-professional and trade) courses for those young people who wish to enter upon employment as soon as their physical maturity is acceptable to the state, the employer and the trade..... Fourthly, ...for further training of those already employed... Fifthly, ...provide learning experiences to make for a more complete, efficient, happy life for the learner."

7. The 1953 Re-Appraisal Committee concluded:

1. "It seems evident that education must be designed to meet the need of the students."

2. "It seems to us to be increasingly evident that technical development and the complex problems of modern day living now mean that a high percentage of people need education beyond the twelfth grade. The rise in the number of students enrolled in colleges and universities is in itself indicative of this need. We feel that a college education is now more necessary and desirable than a high school education was fifty years ago."

3. "If more people need higher education, it would be unfortunate if the opportunity for it were to be determined solely by economic status. We feel that the ultimate goal of our educational system should be one wherein a qualified individual is not blocked at <u>any</u> level due to economic reasons. We feel that the time has come to take another step in this direction by providing more educational opportunity through the thirteenth and fourteenth grades."

4. "If we are to do so we have two choices:
   a. We must greatly enlarge the capacity of our colleges and universities, or
   b. We must provide such opportunities at a local level. Enlarging the capacity of our present colleges and universities does not seem to be the answer. It does not help those who cannot now go to college for economic reasons. In addition a Community College allows each community to best meet the needs of its own people.

"We are pleased that the State of Michigan seems to be moving towards the second of the two alternatives. We feel that this choice is much superior to the first. However, this alternative can work only if each community meets this need as it arises.

5. "There is a need in Midland for a Community College. Studies indicate that for every high school graduate in Midland who goes on to college there is a graduate of equal ability who does not do so. It seems certain that a major problem with many of those who do not go on is lack of finances.

"If a Community College is established in Midland, experience elsewhere indicates that two things will happen.

a. Most of the qualified students who do not now go to college for economic reasons will do so in a Community College.
b. Many more of those who are now starting college will be able to obtain their degrees. Most of the money which is now spent at the end of two years is made available for the third and fourth years."

8. From transcript of address of Dr. Howard A. Dawson in transmitting his report of school survey to Midland County Board of Education and citizens March 11, 1955:

"There ought to be a community college in Midland. There has been a survey made here that is accurate and the estimates are conservative. I think the college will be bigger than they concluded it would be. There is justification for that with steadily increasing population. If a community college is established here, from the very beginning it should be established with the idea of service for all of the youth of Midland County, and the people of the other districts ought to know about it and make plans to make the necessary pro rata share contribution to the cost and planning so they may have a voice in the accessability of public transportation. All of this is possible and desirable. In my opinion you are not going to get many things done unless you take some line of action as I indicated. You have been very attentive and if your chairman wants to go into the question and answer portion I will do as good a job as I can."